

SUBJECT: Friedrich Wilhelm HEINZ

SUMMARY:

Friedrich Wilhelm HEINZ was the leader of a chain of agents established in 1947 to collect order of battle information on the Soviet armed forces stationed in East Germany. The product of this operation was shared by the American, British, Dutch and French intelligence services. Later, in 1950, the operation was terminated, but HEINZ in the meantime was appointed chief of operations of a newly established intelligence organization in the "Blank Office" (predecessor to the present West German Defense Ministry). In this capacity he presumably continued to utilize the services of some of the agents in the chain which since 1948 had been directly supervised by HEINZ's principal agent, Jakob KOLB (KOLB moved officially into the Blank intelligence organization in 1953 as chief of its Berlin office).

In late 1953 HEINZ was forced to resign from the Blank organization, primarily because of personal differences with other members of the government. Shortly thereafter it was revealed that HEINZ had been a long-time target of the Soviet intelligence service. A recruitment attempt by the Soviets was made through a man named Alfred FRIEDRICH in October 1953, but failed when HEINZ informed the authorities about it. The Soviets apparently had first learned about HEINZ when he became a friend in the early 1930's of Alexander HIRSCHFELD (GIRSCHFELD?) who at that time was assigned to the Soviet Embassy in Berlin as cultural attache.

In late 1954 it was established that HEINZ's principal agent in the chain, Jakob KOLB, had been working as a double agent for the Soviets. KOLB admitted this to one of his assistants in the Berlin office of the Blank organization, Wilhelm DENK, and induced DENK to go with him to East Berlin. There DENK was introduced to Soviet intelligence officers who recruited him. However, the next day DENK returned to West Berlin and reported the matter to the authorities. Before action could be taken by the West German police, KOLB also induced HEINZ to contact the Soviets in East Berlin. According to HEINZ's story, he pretended to accept the recruitment attempt by the Soviets but the next day was able to successfully escape to the West.

Since KOLB, an admitted Soviet agent, either personally recruited or ran all the other agents in the chain, it is assumed that the entire chain was comprised.

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During World War II HEINZ served as battalion commander with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Abwehr's Brandenburg Division. As a member of the Abwehr, he was also mentioned as part of the inner circle grouped around CANARIS' deputy, General OSTER. When an attempt was made to assassinate Hitler on July 20, 1944, HEINZ supported the conspirators and was subsequently placed on the wanted list by the Gestapo. He managed to escape arrest by going underground in Germany and remained free until the end of the War. From July 1945 to July 1946 he served as mayor of Saarow-Piskow, Mark Brandenburg, Soviet Zone of Germany, in spite of the fact that Soviet authorities were at the time arresting any former members of the Brandenburg Division they could find. Difficulties with the SED finally forced him to move to the American sector of Berlin in 1946.

In the Years 1947-1948 HEINZ organized a net of agents in East Germany to report order of battle information of the Soviet Armed Forces stationed in the Soviet Zone. These agents, recruited and handled by HEINZ, were largely former members and associates of his in the Brandenburg Division. With the information procured through this agents net HEINZ peddled his services at the same time to several Allied intelligence agencies including, The American, Dutch, British, French, and later the newly established German intelligence service. The fact that HEINZ was selling the same information to several intelligence outfits soon became known and the British and Americans, at least, ceased contact with him in the late 1940's. The Dutch, French and Germans, however, apparently continued to buy his information. While living in Berlin, HEINZ claimed to be a close friend of Col. KUNH Yung-Ch'ing, chief of the Chinese Military Mission to Germany, and of Georg DERTINGER, later to become East Germany's first foreign minister.

In July 1948 HEINZ turned over the management of the agent net to his assistant, Jakob KOLB, and moved from Berlin (American Sector) to Neuwed in the French Zone of Germany. There he obtained a license from the French to establish the publishing house, Michel Verlag. In addition to managing the publishing firm, HEINZ also did free-lance work at this time for both German and foreign newspapers. In December 1949 HEINZ moved to Wiesbaden and through his friendship with the then mayor of Wiesbaden, REDHAMMER, became chief of the city's press office. During this period he also began re-establishing old friendships with people occupying positions in the German Federal government.

In mid-1950 HEINZ was proposed by Ritter von LEX, one of Chancellor Adenauer's principal assistants, as chief of the Verfassungsschutzamt (predecessor of the present BfV). Prior to this HEINZ had worked several months unofficially for von LEX, drawing up plans for the future security organization and had been von LEX's advisor on the establishment of such an agency. The British and French, however, rejected HEINZ for this position on the grounds that he was of "questionable character".

In spite of the rejection HEINZ still continued to advise von LEX on intelligence and security matters throughout the summer of 1950. His salary and expenses were paid by the Verfassungsschutzamt of Land Nordrhein-Westfalen. It was during the summer that HEINZ began to attach himself to General SCHWERIN who in July was made Chancellor Adenauer's unofficial military advisor. With SCHWERIN, HEINZ was made responsible for liaison with German security and Allied intelligence agencies and advised SCHWERIN on what kind of German intelligence organization should be established. In October-November 1950, shortly after SCHWERIN was dismissed, HEINZ was appointed chief of the intelligence section of the embryonic German defense ministry, the Blank Office. He immediately began operating or consolidating control over several intelligence collection chains, one of which was the old agent net he directed in Berlin in the late 1940's. During the fall of 1950 he was also reported to be in contact with a Dutch Intelligence Service agent, Jan ELAND, who was arrested by the West Germans one year later for attempted extortion and homosexuality. The French stated they dropped contact with HEINZ at this time; the Americans, however, instituted an informal contact with him in order to monitor his activities.

The Blank Office was officially organized in December 1950, and HEINZ was moved to the position of chief of operations under Achim OSTER in the intelligence section. HEINZ now expanded his operations and opened a covert office in Frankfurt/Main. Beginning with the official opening of the intelligence section of the Blank Office, and HEINZ's increased activities in the intelligence field, animosity soon arose between him and General GEHLEN, primarily because HEINZ's organization was now the only officially recognized intelligence service in the West German government. GEHLEN began to make accusations against HEINZ; for instance, that HEINZ was still on the British payroll. The British however stated that they considered HEINZ a bad security risk. GEHLEN also questioned HEINZ's loyalty because he had once been a mayor in East Germany, even though he had formerly been a member of the Brandenburg Division. According to GEHLEN, the Soviets would never have allowed a person with such a past to become mayor.

By 1952 HEINZ, who had long been a close friend of Otto JOHN, the chief of the BIV, was also having trouble with him. JOHN also questioned his loyalty. Added to GEHLEN's old charges were the association between HEINZ and ELAND, which came out in ELAND's trial in 1951, and the discovery in mid-1952 that a Soviet Bloc agent, Frau Maria KNUTH, was working as a secretary in the Blank Office. JOHN suggested that HEINZ be removed from his position, but HEINZ still continued to enjoy the confidence of Blank's superior, Hans GLOBKE, and Chancellor Adenauer.

Finally in June 1953, JOHN confronted Theodor BLANK with a list of accusations against HEINZ and induced BLANK to reluctantly agree to a full investigation. BLANK appointed Count KIELMANSEGG to conduct the investigation. In July KIELMANSEGG reported that JOHN's accusations were mostly petty in nature and that the most that could be said against HEINZ was that he was guilty of indiscretion and lacked good operational techniques. When BLANK saw the report he vowed to support HEINZ, but BLANK's influence was not enough to

save HEINZ's position. HEINZ was placed on a leave of absence as of 1 October 1953, after promising to resign officially on 31 March 1954.

On 29 October 1953 HEINZ reported to the BfV (JOHN's office) that he had been approached that day on behalf of the Soviets by one Alfred FRIEDRICH. The BfV arrested FRIEDRICH on 31 October when he returned to see HEINZ. FRIEDRICH stated during the recruitment attempt that he was sent by Soviet Colonel BORISCHENKO. FRIEDRICH also mentioned the name, Alexander HIRSCHFELD (GIRSCHFELD?), with whom HEINZ had become friendly in pre-war Berlin, when HIRSCHFELD was stationed at the Soviet Embassy as cultural attache.

When HEINZ was questioned about HIRSCHFELD, he (HEINZ) accused Kurt ANDERS, one of his old agents in the 1947-1950 Berlin net, of telling the Soviets of his association with HIRSCHFELD. In October 1954 FRIEDRICH was sentenced to 3 and a half years for "attempted incitement to commit treason." In the summer of 1954 HEINZ was tried for perjured testimony, which allegedly occurred during his libel suit against the West German lawyer, Helmut KILCH. In November 1954 the court sentenced HEINZ to six months in prison on this charge, primarily on the basis of the fact that HEINZ had identified his last military rank in World War II as being Colonel when in fact he never advanced higher than Lt. Colonel.

In December 1954, it was revealed that Jakob KOLB, who had been HEINZ's successor in managing the net of agents in Berlin in the late 1940's, and whom HEINZ had installed in the Berlin office of the Blank intelligence section, was a Soviet agent. KOLB had finally been fired from his job with the BLANK organization in March 1954 and prosecuted for embezzlement of office funds. On 16 December 1954 he persuaded one of his former assistants in the Blank Office in Berlin, Wilhelm DENK, to go to East Berlin to meet some Soviet officers. DENK went along with KOLB and in East Berlin pretended to agree to the recruitment pitch made by the Soviets. Returning to West Berlin, DENK reported the recruitment pitch made by the Soviets to the authorities, but before KOLB could be apprehended he also induced HEINZ to go with him to East Berlin on 17 December. On 18 December HEINZ returned to West Berlin with the story that he had also pretended to be recruited by the Soviets, but had fortunately escaped. Meanwhile the East German press publicized the fact that KOLB had requested asylum and that HEINZ had also wanted to defect but was rejected.

HEINZ was arrested on 15 March 1955 on charges of suspicion of treasonous connections with a foreign power. HEINZ was later released for lack of evidence; however, needless-to-say, considerable doubt still existed concerning his alleged "escape" from East Berlin.

Another version of HEINZ's recruitment was given by Heinz STOECKERT who defected in February 1957 to the West. STOECKERT had been employed at the refugee camp at Marienfelde, West Berlin, until he disappeared into East Germany in December 1954.

When interrogated in 1957, STOECKERT said that he had been recruited by the Soviets in January 1951 while he was in East Germany on a visit to his mother. The Soviet Intelligence Officers who recruited and subsequently handled him were BORISENKO and PETROV, who were stationed at Karlshorst. In 1952 STOECKERT received the assignment to develop leads to the Blank Office. In 1953 he was to approach KOLB, using copies of reports which KOLB had submitted to Soviet intelligence while KOLB was an informant in a prisoner of war camp in Roumania during the years 1945-1947. STOECKERT then approached KOLB in mid-1954 and introduced him to the Soviets. KOLB at the time told STOECKERT that HEINZ had approved his (KOLB) accepting the Soviet recruitment attempt.

STOECKERT claimed, during his interrogation in 1957, that the Soviets had stated HEINZ had been a Soviet agent in the late 1920's. The Soviets also said that the approach by FRIEDRICH in late 1953 was an attempt to reactivate HEINZ. STOECKERT also claimed that KOLB told him HEINZ met with Soviet intelligence officers for the first time since the war on 17 September 1953, not in October as HEINZ claims (the approach by FRIEDRICH).

STOECKERT's story was never substantiated, and some doubt exists about the truthfulness of his statements. HEINZ continued to remain free for lack of evidence.

Biography of Friedrich Wilhelm HEINZ - 1950

Friedrich Wilhelm HEINZ was born of Protestant faith on 7 May 1899 in Frankfurt/Main, of German parents in a middle class family. (Father was an independent businessman.) After his education (Abitur in the Liebig Oberrealschule in Frankfurt/Main) he joined the German Army in 1916 as a Fahnenjunker (officer candidate) and served as a regular army officer in the German Army until 1920, when he was discharged from the Wehrmacht as a Lt. From 1919 to 1920 he was a member of the Deutsche Nationale Volkspartei, a rightist party, which he left in 1920. From 1925 to 1927 he was a member of the Stahlhelm, a rightist paramilitary organization, largely composed of former German officers and non-commissioned officers. He was the chief editor of the Stahlhelm newspaper "Der Stahlhelm" from 1925 to 1927. In 1927 he left both the Stahlhelm and its newspaper, because of political differences, and in 1928 he joined the Rudolf Dammert Verlag (publishing house) as chief editor. He stayed with this firm until 1935, when the Dammert Verlag was dissolved because of political unreliability of its management. Not being willing to join the National Socialist Party, he joined the German Army again in 1936 and was commissioned as a Capt. After one month's service with the army he was transferred to the Abwehr where he successively held the following posts:

1936 to 1938	Abwehr III A (Abwehr Meer). In the latter part of his duty with this section he headed it. This section was the Army Security Section.
1938	Abwehr 3cIII (Abwehr Propaganda und Abwehr Propaganda Abwehr) He was chief of this section which was charged with publicizing Security and taking steps against adverse publicity.
1939 to 1 Jan 1941	Head of Abwehr III U (Auswertung), Analysis and editing section.
1 Jan 1941 to 1 Nov 1942	Bn CO in the Lehrregiment Brandenburg (Special Operations Section of the German IS), as Major.
1 Nov 1942 to 10 Oct 1943	CO of the 4th Brandenburg Regiment, first in Tunis, then in the Balkans. Heinz was promoted to Lt. Col. in this position.
10 Oct 1943	Heinz was discharged from the Army and was investigated for possible participation in the plot of General Oster and Ambassador Doherty. This investigation continued until 20 July 1944 when Heinz was arrested by the Gestapo for participation in the 20 July plot against Hitler. He was held in the prison in Prinz Albrecht Strasse (Gestapo) until October 1944, released and was to be rearrested on 12 November 1944 after documents had been found

which implicated him. He preferred flight to arrest and lived illegally from that date to the end of the war. The Gestapo arrested his family, when they were unable to get him, and killed one son shortly before the end of the war.

HEINE was in Saarow-Pieskov when the Russians occupied it and became mayor of that municipality on 1 June 1945. He remained mayor until 1 April 1946, when the Russians found out about his army past (which he had never denied) and forced him to flee. He fled to Berlin where he lived from 1 April 1946 to 28 July 1948. He moved from Berlin on 28 July 1948 to Neuwied in the French Zone of Germany and to Wiesbaden on 15 December 1949. HEINE is an independent publisher at present (owner of the Michel Verlag) and is active as a free-lance journalist for foreign newspapers.